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## House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: "The greatest among you is the one who serves the rest."

Your glory, O God, stands in contrast to the glory people seek from other people.

People seek glory by moving upward, some ladder of success, fame or fortune.

You, Lord God, always reveal Your glory by moving downward as in creation or in revealing Your name or love to others.

This downward spiral must then become the deepest reason for living in solidarity with the poor, the alienated, the oppressed, children and the handicapped.

They are the ones in whom Your glory can be best manifested. Show us the way, O Lord, the way to salvation, now and forever. Amen.

### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. KIND) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. KIND led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain 10 1-minute speeches on each side.

### HOW MUCH WOULD AMERICANS PAY WITHOUT TAX RELIEF?

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, in the year 2001, 2002, and 2003, we gave the American people tax breaks. How much more would American families pay without this tax relief? If none of this tax relief had become law, in 2004, 111 million Americans would be paying an average of \$1,586 more in taxes; 81 million women would be paying an average of \$1,878 more in taxes; 49 million married couples would pay, on average, \$2,602 more in taxes.

Mr. Speaker, 43 million families with children would be paying an average of \$2,000 more in taxes; 11 million single women with children would be paying an average of \$921 more in taxes; 14 million elderly individuals would be paying an average of \$1,883 more in taxes; 25 million small businesses would be paying an average of \$3,000 more in taxes; and nearly 5 million individuals and families who currently have no income tax liability would become subject to the income tax. The numbers speak for themselves.

### FUNDRAISING FOR GALLAUDET UNIVERSITY

(Mr. KIND asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, we had our own form of March madness last night, and I am here to gloat, I mean to report, that the Democratic Slamming Dunking Donkeys defeated the Fighting Elephants by a one point blowout margin. It came down to a last-minute shot by our rookie and MVP, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. RYAN), and it was all for a good cause, Gallaudet University, to raise funds for a wonderful

university for the deaf and hearing impaired.

Mr. Speaker, I want to commend my Republican counterparts under the leadership of the gentleman from Ohio (Coach OXLEY). It was 1991 when the Democrats last won the game. The Republicans have learned to be very gracious winners, and now they are learning to be very gracious losers, and the Democrats appreciate that.

There were, however, 7 seconds remaining in the game, and some of us feared the gentleman from Ohio (Coach OXLEY) would figure out a way to keep the clock running for another 3 hours until he determined he agreed with the final outcome.

Mr. Speaker, it was a lot of fun, and it was good to see in the midst of a heated budget debate we could come together for some fun and camaraderie, and raise money for a good cause.

### BUDGET RESPONSIBILITY

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the Republican budget carefully crafted by the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. NUSSLE) for fiscal year 2005, because it is a responsible plan that sets clear priorities.

As we fight the war on terrorism, we will make sure we have the tools that we need to fight the enemy abroad and protect our homeland. Defense spending has increased 7.1 percent, and homeland security has increased 9.5 percent.

Additionally, we are committed to continuing the policies of economic recovery through job creation. The budget allows for making tax cuts, like the marriage penalty and child deduction, permanent so American families can keep more of their own hard-earned money.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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